

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY 25X1 REPORT

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Poland

DATE DISTR. 2 October 1952

SUBJECT National Defense Ministry Order on Officers' Ranks; NO. OF PAGES 1
Military Training in UniversitiesPLACE 25X1
ACQUIREDNO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)

DATE OF INFO. 25X1

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1. Most Polish honorary military titles were abolished in February 1952 on the order of the Minister of National Defense, Marshal Konstanty Rokossowski. Since then, only active and reserve officers have been permitted to use their title of rank. The only exceptions made to the ban are those ranks which were gained under the German occupation or which were awarded to members of the underground during the war; these ranks, however, had to be verified during October and November 1949. Retired officers are now forbidden to employ their titles.
2. The order continued that henceforward graduates of higher schools of learning would be considered officer candidates and not officers as previously. All higher Polish schools contain academic companies (Kompanie Akademickie). The companies are especially active in technical schools. Members of the units wear officer-type uniforms but do not have commissioned rank. Graduates of the schools who were members are given a short additional period of training in the army and may become professional officers if they elect to remain in uniform.
3. Students who are stigmatized by a bourgeois background often join the university military units in order to assure their entry into universities. Entrance into the companies is not too difficult. Members of the companies are automatically considered patriotic and are judged to be properly oriented politically.

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